

REMARKS

New Claims 59-96 are presented for examination. Claims 1-58 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 59, 71, 83, 95, and 96 are in independent form. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-58 have been cancelled, thereby rendering the rejection thereof moot.

Applicants note that the Examiner found the examination of original Claims 1-59 an impossibility. Accordingly, to advance the prosecution of the present application, Applicants have carefully considered the Examiner's rejections of the original claims in drafting a new set of claims, which are respectfully submitted for examination.

It is respectfully submitted that the cited references, alone or in any possible combination, fail to teach or suggest an information processing apparatus including a musical piece management processor and a mark/moving object display processor. The musical piece management processor reads information for generating musical tones and information as to at least a rhythm and a tempo that are set in relation to the information for generating musical tones, from a recording medium having recorded therein the information for generating musical tones and the information as to the at least a rhythm and tempo, and reproducing a musical piece while managing at least the rhythm and tempo. The mark/moving object display processor, when the musical piece management processor reproduces the musical piece, arranges and displays the same number of mark objects as beats corresponding to the information as to the rhythm of the musical piece reproduced and managed by the musical piece management processor, the mark objects each having a shape corresponding to the number of the beats and being related to a sequence of the beats, on a screen of a display, further displays on the screen of the display a moving object so that the moving object travels between the mark objects on the

screen periodically at a constant speed according to the sequence of the beats, and also controls the display of the moving object and the mark objects by setting a special distance between the mark objects so that a cycle that the moving object travels over all the mark objects at the constant speed matches a measure of the tempo of the musical piece reproduced and managed by the musical piece management processor, as recited in new independent Claim 96.

New Independent Claims 59, 71, 83, and 95 recite features similar in many respects to the features discussed above with respect to Claim 96, and are submitted to be patentably distinct over the cited art for at least the same reasons.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that new independent Claims 59, 71, 83, 95, and 96, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentably distinct over the cited references, alone or in any possible combination.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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